

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

August

YEAR

1996

SIGNATURE

Amy McCullough

In Charge of HSA

DATE

9/5/96

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2
 NOAA / National Weather Service
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When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (WSOM E-41).

On August 29th, moderate flooding occurred in the Concho River basin along Spring Creek, Dove Creek, Middle Concho River and the South Concho River, and minor flooding occurred on the Colorado River at Colorado City. Flooding of a few houses occurred at the headwaters of Spring Creek in the town of Mertzon, and one house was flooded along Dove Creek at the site of the river gage near the town of Knickerbocker. Foster Park, located at the river gage site on Spring Creek near Tankersley, was also flooded. Highway 277 near Christoval was closed due to the rise on the South Concho River.

Thunderstorms developed during the night of August 28th over the Concho Valley and became stationary over Irion and southern Tom Green counties through the morning of the 30th. Rainfall amounts of around 6 to 7 inches occurred to the south of San Angelo in Christoval and to the west of San Angelo in Mertzon.

The runoff from the heavy rainfall resulted in flash flooding along streams and the headwaters of Spring Creek and Dove Creek. Residents along Spring Creek in Mertzon were evacuated as the water flooded a few homes. This water rushed quickly downstream and caused Spring Creek near Tankersley to crest at 13.65 feet (flood stage is 14 feet). This caused flooding in Foster Park at the river gage site. The picnic tables were completely covered by water, and the river rose to just a foot below the park pavilion. At Dove Creek at Knickerbocker, the crest was 20.1 feet (bankfull stage is 14 feet). Water up to a foot deep entered a house on the banks of Dove Creek near the river gage. The South Concho River at Christoval crested at just under flood stage at 9.76 feet (flood stage is 10 feet). The Middle Concho River above Tankersley reached a crest of 24.3 feet (flood stage 18 feet) and flooded a few roads. The Colorado River at Colorado City crested just over flood stage at 8.5 feet. No damage resulted from the rise at Colorado City. Heavy rainfall in Kimble County resulted in flash flooding and a 15 foot rise on the North Llano River. A campground was evacuated due to the rising water.

The flooding quickly subsided on the evening of August 29th as the water rushed into Twin Buttes Reservoir in southwest San Angelo. The amount of water in the reservoir rose from near 22,000 acre feet to 60,280 acre feet as the height rose 18 feet. This water was a welcomed sight to residents of the Concho Valley, as the drought this year had left lakes and reservoirs very low.

San Angelo received 4.67 inches of rain during the two day period of August 28th through 29th. The monthly rainfall for San Angelo in August was 7.66 inches, which is 5.73 inches above normal. This brought the yearly total to 14.76 inches of rainfall, which finally put San Angelo above normal for the year by 1.99 inches.

In Abilene, a couple of heavy rainfall events during the month helped bring the August rainfall total to 6.92 inches. This was 4.12 inches above normal. For the year, Abilene has received 17.95 inches of rain, which also puts Abilene at 1.78 inches above normal for the year. Although areas in the Concho Valley and Big Country saw heavy amounts of much needed rain, the drought continues over many areas as reservoirs still remain below normal levels.